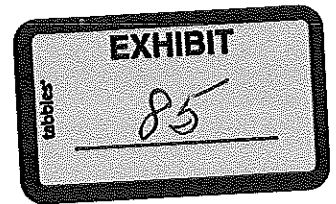


1/22/10

Lisa Kereszi
106 1st Ave.
New Haven, CT 06513-3336



BUREAU OF WATER PROTECTION AND LAND REUSE
OFFICE OF THE BUREAU CHIEF

JAN 27 2010

DEP
Attn: Paul Stacey
79 Elm St.
Hartford, CT06106

Dear Mr. Stacey,

Hello, I live in the Fair haven heights section of New Haven, one block inland from the Quinnipiac River. I was unable to attend the January 21st hearing about regulating the amount of waste flow allowed in our beautiful river. I wanted you to know, in any case, that this citizen and taxpayer fully supports these regulations, as they would make our river cleaner and more healthy. I am Yale faculty who walks along the river to take photographs often.

This neighborhood once was a top producer of oysters, and it is too dirty today to raise them to full term for eating. It is my understanding that there is at least one oysterman here who seeds his Quinnipiac River beds, but then moves the oysters out to the Sound for clean, non-toxic oysters he can sell. I am so happy that he can do that, but wouldn't it be wonderful if he could raise the oysters and collect them right here? In the warmer months, I always see fishermen here, many who are Spanish-speakers and who may not understand or know that the river is polluted. Yes, when they are fishing for the fish that just swim upstream, but who have lived out in the Sound, yes those are safe to eat. But I know that some of our residents are eating polluted, toxic fish. I have also seen men crabbing in the Mill River, which must surely be playing with fire.

People also boat here, including canoeing and kayaking, where you are very close to the water. It would be safer to do so on a regular basis if the water were cleaner. Also, people come here to hunt ducks from their small boats. Surely the duck meat they are eating must have some toxins from our water here. The best thing about this neighborhood is the river. It is this river that made the interesting, 19-century housing stock even exist here in the first place. People came back here in the Eighties, when many old homes went condo, and new condos were also built to house the influx. We also have the riverfront park on front St., and the New Haven Land Trust property, the Eugene Fargeorge Preserve, on Quinnipiac Ave. We neighbors enjoy these waterside parks. It seems crazy to have a nature preserve on an unregulated body of water. It makes no sense, from an environmental and preservationist standpoint. I have seen all sorts of wonderful, wild animals that thrive in the preserve, like deer, coyotes, praying mantis, owls, eagles, falcons and osprey. Regulations would keep them, and me, healthier.

The Quinnipiac should not be condemned to fail, just because of past pollution. Please enact string regulations to help the river regain its health. I would be shocked if, in 2010, we act in a backwards manner on this issue.

Sincerely, 
Lisa Kereszi